

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of Application of San Diego Gas & Electric Company (U 902 G) and Southern California Gas Company (U 904 G) for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the Pipeline Safety & Reliability Project.

Application 15-09-013 (Filed September 30, 2015)

## SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY'S (U 902 G) AND SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY'S (U 904 G) NOTICE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATION

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Dated: May 24, 2018

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Pursuant to Rule 8.4 of the California Public Utilities Commission's ("CPUC") Rules of Practice and Procedure, notice is hereby given that David Gamson, Advisor to Commissioner Martha Guzman Aceves, met with SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY (SDG&E) (U 902 G) AND SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY ("SoCalGas") (U 904 G) for a joint *ex parte* meeting on Monday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 11:00 a.m. for approximately thirty minutes.

The meeting request was initiated by SDG&E and SoCalGas and took place at the offices of SDG&E and SoCalGas located at 601 Van Ness Avenue in San Francisco, California. The communication media was by oral and written presentation (filed with this notice as Attachment A and resubmitted with photo caption corrections). The SDG&E and SoCalGas representatives that participated via telepresence monitor system were Jimmie Cho, Senior Vice President of Customer Service & Distribution Operations; Estela de Llanos, Director of Major Projects; and inperson was Brian Prusnek, Director of Regulatory Affairs.

Mr. Prusnek started the meeting by discussing the application that SDG&E and SoCalGas filed in this proceeding as well as the history of the Commission proceedings that lead to this

filing. He stated that the Commission, in the Pipeline Safety Enhancement Plan (PSEP) decision, directed that the Utilities' proposal to construct the proposed project must be addressed in a new application. While Line 1600 is a 16-inch diameter, the Utilities felt it would be prudent to propose a larger diameter, 36-inch transmission pipeline to enhance the reliability for the San Diego region.

Ms. de Llanos commended the Proposed Decision for its review of the proceeding, but recommended that rather than pressure test the line as envisioned by the Proposed Decision, the line should be derated and the Commission should proceed to Phase 2 of this proceeding in order to properly assess the host of alternatives that were provided as part of the California Environmental Quality Act and cost-effectiveness review process.

Mr. Cho expressed his concern about using Line 1600 as a transmission level asset. He stated that fundamentally, this proceeding is about the reliability and safety of SDG&E's transmission system. Pressure testing Line 1600 and returning it to a level lower than its previous service level represents a reduction in reliability. PSEP's goal was to test or replace transmission level assets and restore them to the level of service they had previously provided.

Mr. Cho stated his concern regarding the hydrotest of Line 1600. Ms. de Llanos discussed the record of the proceeding and the view of other parties on this topic and the view of the Commission's Safety and Enforcement Division. Additionally, Ms. de Llanos discussed the challenges the company would face in having to construct new pipeline in the existing right of

way due to the proximity of homes and other environmental issues, requesting that these issues be discussed in Phase 2 as originally contemplated in the proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/Brian Prusnek

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